

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTIAGO 03013 292234Z

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3110

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 3013

EO 11652: GDS1

TAGS: PFOR, OASGA, CI

SUBJECT: OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, MAY 8-19, 1975

REF: STATE 095203

1. SUMMARY: FONMIN OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR OASGA LISTED CHILEAN DEL AND THOUGHT MINISTERS WOULD DISCUSS: REFORM OF INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM, TRA, PANAMA CANAL, JUDICIAL COMMITTEE REPORT ON NON-INTERVENTION, CUBA, AND ELECTION OF SECYGEN. HE ASKED USG POSITION ON NON-INTERVENTION REPORT, SO CHILEANS COULD BE PREPARED TO COOPERATE. END SUMMARY.

2. EMBOFF CARRIED OUT REF INSTRUCTION APRIL 29 WITH ENRIQUE BERNSTEIN, FONMIN POLITICAL ADVISER, WHO IS CHARGED WITH PREPARATION FOR OASGA. BERNSTEIN SAID CHILEAN DEL WILL BE COMPOSED OF: FONMIN ADMIRAL PATRICIO CARVAJAL, AMBASSADOR TO US AND TO OAS MANUEL TRUCCO, FONMIN POLITICAL ADVISER ENRIQUE BERNSTEIN, FONMIN ECONOMIC ADVISER RICARDO CLARO, COLONEL (ARMY) ORAZIO TORO, CHIEF OF INTERNATIONAL SECTION, ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO JUNTA (COAJ), SERGIO DIAZ (ONLY FOR HUMAN RIGHTS BUSINESS), AND MARIO ARNELLO (LAST TWO ARE PROMINENT CONSERVATIVE POLITICANS WHO WERE MEMBERS OF CHILEAN DEL TO 1974 UNGA; DIAZ ALSO LED DEL OF CHILEAN OBSERVERS TO UNHRC MEETING IN GENEVA IN MARCH AND LEFT SANTIAGO RECENTLY FOR CONSULTATIONS IN GENEVA AND DAKAR). DELEGATION WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY FOLLOWING ADVISERS: DEPDIRECTOR FONMIN ECONOMIC AFFAIRS EDUARDO BRAVO, FONMIN CHIEF OF CABINET DEMETRIO INFANTE, AND ULDARICIO FIGUEROA OF CHILEAN DEL TO OAS. MRS. CARVAJAL WILL ACCOMPANY HER HUSBAND.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SANTIAGO 03013 292234Z

3. FONMIN CARVJAL INTENDS TO BE IN WASHINGTON AS LONG AS MOST IMPORTANT BUSINESS IS BEING CONSIDERED (PROBABLY CUBA, IAHRC REPORT, REFORM OF INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM); OTHERS ARE EXPECTED TO STAY FOR ENTIRE MEETING. DATE OF DEPARTURE FROM SANTIAGO IS NOT YET SET.

4. BERNSTEIN ASSUMED FOLLOWING SUBJECT SWOULD BE DISCUSSED IN MINISTERS' PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS:

A. REFORM OF SYSTEM: BERNSTEIN NOTED THAT MINISTERS CANNOT ADEQUATELY CONSIDER THIS LONG AND DETAILED SUBJECT AT GA, SUGGESTED THAT BEST WAY OF HANDLING IT WOULD BE REFERRAL TO GOVERNMENTS FOR STUDY AND THEN CONSIDERATION AT CONFERENCE SOME MONTHS HENCE. (COMMENT: THIS POSITION REFLECTS GOC'S SKEPTICISM ABOUT FIDDLING WITH SYSTEM.) SEPTTEL REPORTS BERNSTEIN'S COMMENTS ON COLLECTIVE ECONOMIC SECURITY ITEM.

B. US TRADE REFORM ACT: BERNSTEIN THOUGHT MINISTERS COULD EITHER DEBATE TRA OR TAKE NOTE OF WHAT USG WAS DOING TO IMPROVE IT. HE CLEARLY PREFERRED SECOND ROUTE.

C. PANAMA CANAL: BERNSTEIN SAID GOC'S PRINCIPAL CONCERN IS THAT CANAL STAY OPEN, AND BE OPERATED EFFICIENTLY AND AT MINIMUM COST. CHILEAN NAVY WOULD BE CONTENT WITH CONTINUATION OF PRESENT REGIME, BUT GOC FOR POLITICAL REASONS WILL HAVE TO SUPPORT PANAMA IF THERE IS LA CONSENSUS. HE SUGGESTED USEFULNESS OF USG INITIATIVE TO EXPLAIN WHERE NEGOTIATIONS STAND, RATHER THAN LEAVING INITIATIVE TO PANAMA.

D. JUDICIAL COMMITTEE REPORT ON NON-INTERVENTION: BERNSTEIN UNDERSTOOD THAT REPORT HAD BEEN PREPARED, ASKED WHAT USG THOUGHT OF IT AND WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN TO IT. CHILEAN DEL WOULD LIKE TO COOPERATE WITH US DEL.

E. CUBA: GOC WILL NOT RAISE BUT EXPECTS OTHERS TO DO SO. CONSIDERATION OF CUBA MIGHT RAISE DANGER INHERENT IN MINISTERS' PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS--I.E., ATTEMPT COULD BE MADE TO EXPLOIT INFORMALITY OF MEETING IN ORDER TO REMOVE SANCTIONS BY EVASION OF FORMAL ROUTE. BERNSTEIN SAID GOC WOULD NOT STAND FOR THIS, AND WARNING IN THAT SENSE HAD BEEN GIVEN IN ELLIPTICAL CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 SANTIAGO 03013 292234Z

LANGUAGE USED BY FONMIN DIRGEN IN APRIL 24 PRESS CONFERENCE (PARA THREE, SANTIAGO 2965). BERNSTEIN ADDED THAT FONMINISTRY HAD IMPRESSION (PRESUMABLY AS RESULT OF CONSULTATIONS) THAT ARGENTINA, COLOMBIA, AND ECUADOR WERE LESS INCLINED TOWARD REMOVING SANCTIONS THAN AT QUITO MEETING.

F. ELECTION OF SECYGEN.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: INFORM EMBASSY OF DEPT'S POSITION ON
JUDICIAL COMMITTEE REPORT ON NON-INTERVENTION IN TIME TO
BRIEF BERNSTEIN MAY 2 (MAY 1 IS LOCAL HOLIDAY).
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